Statement

The following specific policy measures Were taken in recent past to strengthen the electronic industry in the country:

(a) For a number of categories, "broad-based" licences are issued.

(b) The electronic components indus^ try has been delicensed.

(c) The import of technology ana foreign collaboration are permitted in all areas of electronics, units having foreign cqity less than 40 per cent allowed in all areas.

(d) Developments of small scale industry is being encouraged. Approvals for a number of items have been decentralised to the level of State Dis. Investment limit for this sector has been revised to
:. 0 lakhs and that for ancillary units to Rs. 45.0 lakhs.

(e) ln order to achieve economies of scale in certain key areas, certain com-ponnt$_s$ which were reserved for small scale sector have been dereserved.

(f) In almost all areas of eletronics, excluding consumer electronics, MRTP companies have been exempted from Sections 21 and 22 of

(g) The private sector uni'.s are permit ted to manufacture telephones., EPABX, facsimili equipment, data 'ion terminals, etc. In addition itching equipment below 2000 lines and transmission equipment below channels are also allowed in the private sector. Other telecommunication items can also be taken up by the private sector with Central|State Govem-ment participation of at least 51 per cent equity shares.

(hi Fo,- computer industry, the em-p is on the manufacture of compu-ters based on latest technology at prices comparable with interna'ional level and progressively increasing indigenisation con-sistent with economic viability.

(i) A new software policy has been announced to encourage production and export o.f software.

(j) Import duty on raw materials, components and capital equipment has been reduced. Fo$_r$ component industry, the duty on raw materials, parts and semifinished goods have been rationalised.

(k.) The import policy has bee$_n$ ration alised with a view to increase production.

(1) Government is promoting appropriate, applications of electronics to improve productivity, quality, safety and quality of services.

(m) Various projects hav$_e$ been initiated like National Radar Council, National Micro-electronics Council, Council for Development of Materials, Centre fo$_r$ Stimulating R&D efforts in electronics, C-DAC, etc.

Setting up of advisory committees on science and technology

1363. SHRl SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

faci 'hat the Ministry of Science and Technology has asked the Centra! Ministries to set up Science and Technology Advisory Cotnmit'ees in

(b the number of Ministries that have so far set u? these Advisory Committees;

he main purpose of I to what extent these will help in introducing Science and Tech-nology in the various departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Currently, 19 Ministries/Depart ments have set up Science and Techno logy Advisory Committees;

(c) The Advisory Committee *ait inter-*
(c) The Advisory Committee are *inter*

strategy, an integrated Technology Development Plan, a policy framework, for promotion of new technologies and programmes of action to introduce scientific and technological content relevant to the concerned departments.

V k Fi JC en E!ectronic$_s$ for Health Care

' SHR! SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased e:

(a) whether it is a fact that the task force on electronics for health care set up by Government in August has recom- d the launching of a technology mission;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the suggestion;

(c) what will be the main functions of these missions; and

(id) what are the other suggestions made by the task force and to what extent 'he Department of Eleptronics had examined these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRV OF CIVTL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAI PATIL): (;0 Yes, Sir. Task Force on Electronics for Health Care recommended institution of a Technology Development Mission.

(b) The report of the Task Force has been submitted and recommendations are under consideration.

(c) The main objective envisaged of the Technology Development Mission is *to* develop market and establish indigenous systems of health care programme at primary, community and district health centres, teaching and R&D institutions, and technology upgradation of specific medical electronic equipment.

(d) The other main suggestions of the Task Force include the following:—

(i) Indigenous equipment supplied to all organisations enjoying duty free import status be treated as 'DEEMED EXPORT.

Ui) Central Agency be formed for sianiiaidisation saftey and quality cer-- ifkation of ail medical electronic equipment.

(iii) A forum be established for **a** continuing dialogue between th$_e$ Cen- ylinistri.es like Health, Planning, Indul ry, Department of Electronics, the State Health Ministries, the profession-all bodies of Hospitals, Medical Practitioners, with the various manufacturers including Associations.

(iv) To give special emphasis on Maintenance and Manpower development in Biomedical Engineering.

The recommendations are under consideration.

Design of Third Aircraft Carrier for Navy

1365. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact Jhat nav\' aircraft carrier is to have a French design;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether a change in design is being preferred, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PROD UCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCF 'SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) to (c) A contract has been recently signed with M/s. SOFMA cf France for the Concept Design Study of a Sea Control Ship in accordance with the Staff Requirements of the Indian Navy.

Purchase of Alcoho!i$_c$ Drink$_s$ by Defence Canteen

1366. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what criteria has been laid down by the defence canteen store purchase de. partment for enlistment of manufacturers/ distributors' for purchase of Alcoholic drinks such as IMFL, Rum, Beer etc.**;**